

NEWS RELEASE

March 23, 2022 Contact: Commander Rick Murray 805-339-4343 rmurray@cityofventura.ca.gov

Ventura had a Significant Increase in Violent Crimes while Property Crimes Decreased Slightly Overall in 2021

Ventura's crime statistics are based on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR), defined as the number of crimes committed per 1,000 population. Part I Crimes are comprised of eight offenses, broken down into two categories. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; property crime includes burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

The City of Ventura experienced a 3.54% reduction in reported Part I Crime in 2021. Overall, Part I Crimes totaled 3,324, which was 122 fewer offenses than were reported in 2020.

Despite the slight overall reduction in Part I Crime, violent crime saw a significant increase of 15.24% in 2021, with 50 more offenses reported than in the previous year. Aggravated assaults increased 16.92%, with 34 more assaults being reported. Sexual assaults had a significant increase of 35.48% having 11 more incidents then last year. Robberies increased by 7.45%. Seven more than the year prior. The only decrease in violent crimes was homicides in which we had none compared to two the year prior.

Property Crime dropped by 5.52%, with reductions in every category when compared to 2020. Burglary dropped by 9.57%, with a 1.02% reduction in commercial burglaries and a 24.55% reduction in residential burglaries. Arson showed the greatest reduction, with 11 fewer arsons reported. Larceny and vehicle theft both saw reductions of 3.36% and 13.92% respectively.

In 2021 Ventura saw the highest violent crime increase since 2017. The impact from the non-quarantine status of COVID-19 has most likely contributed to the increased violent crime as more of the community was out in public compared to the prior year. Property Crime has returned to nearly pre-pandemic numbers.

The Ventura Police Department looks forward to the continued strengthening of community partnerships and relationships through various outreach and education programs. In 2022, Ventura PD will host a 10-week Community Academy with 30 participants, launch an in-person Neighborhood Watch Program, host National Night Out, a nationwide crime prevention campaign, and continue attending monthly Neighborhood Community Council meetings.

Community members interested in learning more about crime in their neighborhood and Ventura are encouraged to visit the Ventura Police Department's online, interactive Community Crime Map at www. CityofVentura.ca.gov/CrimeMap.

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VENTURA POLICE D	DEPARTI	MENT - FI	NAL PAR	RT OF	NE UCR (RIMES -	2021
Part 1 Offenses	Jan to Dec 2021	Jan to Dec 2020	%change	# Diff	Crime per	Clearance by Arrest	% Cleared
HOMICIDE	0	2	-100.00%	-2	0.00	0	0.00%
RAPE	42	31	35.48%	11	0.40	2	4.76%
ROBBERY	101	94	7.45%	7	0.96	47	46.53%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	235	201	16.92%	34	2.23	126	53.62%
TOTAL VIOLENT CRIMES	378	328	15.24%	50	3.59	175	46.30%
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BURGLARY - TOTAL	416	460	-9.57%	-44	3.95	67	16.11%
BURGLARY - Residential	127	167	-24.55%	-41	1.20		
BURGLARY - Non Residential	289	293	-1.02%	-3	2.75		
LARCENY-THEFT	2275	2354	-3.36%	-79	21.58	269	11.82%
VEHICLE THEFT (10851)	235	273	-13.92%	-38	2.23	46	19.57%
ARSON	20	31	-35.48%	-11	0.19	10	50.00%
TOTAL PROPERTY CRIMES	2946	3118	-5.52%	-172	27.95	392	13.31%
TOTAL PART 1 CRIMES	3,324	3,446	-3.54%	-122	31.53	567	17.06%
2021 DOF Population E-1 Table		105,415					